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with illustrations will soon be published. The mass weighs about 355 pounds. There has also been placed on exhibition there the second largest known mass of the siderolite form of the Brenham (Kansas) meteorite. This weighs 218 pounds and replaces the two smaller masses of the same fall that have heretofore been on exhibition.

LECTURES will be delivered in the Lecture Hall of the Museum Building of the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, on Saturday afternoons, at four o'clock, as follows:

July 9—"Botanical Features of the West Indian Islands," Dr. N. L. Britton.

July 16—"Interesting Relations between Plants and Animals," Mr. F. J. Seaver.

July 23—"The Forms of Flowers and their Meaning," Dr. C. C. Curtis.

July 30—"By Canoe down the Yukon River, Alaska," Dr. Arthur Hollick.

August 6—"Edible Mushrooms," Dr. W. A. Murrill.

August 13—"Influences which Govern Local Distribution of Plants," Mr. Norman Taylor.

August 20—"Botanical Cruises among the Bahama Islands," Dr. M. A. Howe.

August 27—"Grasses and their Economic Importance," Mr. George V. Nash.

September 3—"Poisonous Mushrooms," Dr. W. A. Murrill.

September 10—"European Influences in the History of American Botany," Dr. J. H. Barnhart.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

CORNELL UNIVERSITY has been made residuary legatee of the estate of Goldwin Smith. It is reported that the value of the bequest will exceed \$1,000,000.

By the will of Frank W. Collendar Tulane University will receive \$65,000 for the Sophie Newcomb College. Mrs. Ida A. Richardson, who during her lifetime gave generously to various departments of the university, has left \$25,000 to the Medical School.

At Amherst College associate professors will receive \$2,000, instead of \$1,600 as formerly; assistant professors will receive from \$1,400 to \$1,600.

At Princeton University promotions and appointments have been made as follows: R. B. C. Johnson, preceptor in philosophy, professor of philosophy; Oswald Veblen, advanced to professor of mathematics; Edwin Fitch Northrup, assistant professor of physics; William Foster, assistant professor of chemistry, professor of chemistry; Alfred C. Hawkes, assistant in mineralogy; Vernon A. Suydam, instructor in physics; Claude W. Heaps and Karl T. Compton, assistants in physics; Lewis R. Cary, instructor in biology; John S. Van Nest, instructor in chemistry; Guy F. Lipscomb, Garrett D. Buckner, Joseph S. Laird, Herbert E. Rankin and John I. B. Vail, assistants in chemistry; M. A. Campbell, instructor in geodesy; Edward C. McWilliams, in graphics.

AMONG recent appointments made at the University of Missouri are the following: Professor W. W. Charters, to be dean of the faculty of the school of education; Dr. D. H. Dolley, University of North Carolina, to be professor of pathology and bacteriology; Dr. A. K. Rogers, Butler College, to be professor of philosophy, as successor to Professor A. O. Lovejoy; Dr. J. H. Coursault, assistant professor of history and philosophy of education, to be professor; J. D. Elliff, assistant professor of school administration, to be professor; O. D. Kellogg, assistant professor of mathematics, to be professor; E. J. Durand, instructor in Cornell University, to assistant professor of botany; R. W. Selvidge, instructor in manual training, to be assistant professor; Carter Alexander, fellow in Teachers College, Columbia University, to be assistant professor of educational administration and private secretary to the president; D. H. Doane, formerly with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to be assistant professor of farm management; Horace T. Major, University of Illinois, to be instructor in landscape gardening with charge of the university campus and grounds; Dr. T. E. Wheelock, of Yale University, to be instructor in physics; Frank W. Capp, to be instructor in civil engineering.

DR. ERNST A. BESSEY, of the Louisiana State University, has accepted the professorship of botany in the Michigan Agricultural College, to succeed Dr. W. J. Beal, who has resigned.

MR. ROBERT H. BAKER, assistant at Allegheny Observatory, has been elected assistant professor of astronomy at Brown University.

EDMUND H. HOLLANDS, Ph.D. (Cornell), has been appointed professor of philosophy in Butler College, Indianapolis. Dr. Hollands has been instructor in philosophy at Cornell University and during this year has been acting professor of philosophy at Hamilton College.

A NEW department of botany and forestry has been established in the University of Montana. Dr. J. E. Kirkwood has been advanced to the position of professor in charge.

MR. J. W. EGGLESTON, assistant in geology, Harvard University, has been appointed assistant professor of geology and mineralogy at the School of Mines and Metallurgy at Rolla, Mo.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### THE RELIABILITY OF "MARKS"

IN connection with the comparison of marks assigned by different examiners in astronomy, published in *SCIENCE* for May 27, a somewhat different experiment of my own in philosophy may be of interest. The course in question was based on Eucken's "Problem of Human Life," and the class consisted of seventeen young women. For each exercise some fifteen pages of the text were assigned, and the students came prepared to make a ten-minute written summary of it. The object, of course, was to see that they did the work, and every student present handed in a paper, even though it contained nothing but her name. The students themselves took turns in marking these papers. It was understood that I was to revise the marks; but, as it turned out, this was not necessary. There were also four tests of an hour each. I was myself to read the papers from these, but actually only read three of them. These tests were announced at the beginning of the year, and the students

knew when to expect them. I paid no attention to the marks handed in from time to time by student-markers until the end of the year, at which time I also read and marked the papers from the three hour-tests. These hour-tests, scattered throughout the term, took the place of a final examination.

The marks given by students were computed as follows: The marker for the day marked the papers excellent, good, fair, passable or deficient, with or without a qualifying plus or minus. From these I determined each student's distance above or below the middle of the class, and marked her anywhere from +8 to -8 accordingly. I did not count the mark which the marker gave herself. The fourth column shows the algebraic sum of these marks; the bracketed figure showing the number of separate marks which are added together to make this total. The first column shows the student's standing in the hour-tests, marked by me; and the third shows the figures from which this standing is derived. These figures were actually obtained by assigning numerical values to my own marks of E, G, F, etc., and then multiplying the totals scored in a given test by the fraction necessary to make the highest marks scored in the three different tests equal. My marks were given rather roughly and were not revised.

My Order	Their Order	My Score	Their Score
No. 1	No. 2	78	+63.5 (12)
" 2	" 15	77	-35.5 (11)
" 3	" 8	70 <sup>1</sup>	- 2 (10)
" 4	" 1	67	+66 (12)
" 5	" 3	64	+28.5 (11)
" 6	" 6	61	+19.5 (10)
" 7	" 5	58	+28.5 (12)
" 8	" 10	56	-11 (12)
" 9	" 9	55	- 9 (11)
" 10	" 12	51	-26.5 (13)
" 11	" 11	50	-17 (12)
" 12	" 4	47	+30.5 (12)
" 13	" 13	45	-35 (12)
" 14	" 7	44	+18 (12)
" 15	" 14	36	-27 (9)
" 16	" 17	30 <sup>1</sup>	-49.5 (11)
" 17	" 16	23	-41.5 (10)

<sup>1</sup> Computed from the results of two tests by adding 50 per cent. to the total.